

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 10-12, 14, and 16 are all of the claims presently pending in the application. Applicants have added new claim 16 to claim additional features of the invention and to provide more varied protection for the claimed invention. Applicants submit that new claim 16 is allowable at least based on similar reasons to those previously submitted with respect to claims 1-5, 10-12, and 14. Furthermore, newly added claim 16 is patentable based on the novel features recited therein.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-5, 10-12, 14, and 16, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

U.S. Application No. 10/796,301
Docket No. K06-167785M/TBS
(NGB.376)

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

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Respectfully Submitted,



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